

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 03178 200221Z  
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05  
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01  
INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 FEA-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /124 W  
-----200226Z 018201 /63/17

O R 190858Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3353  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3178

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION PARA 3)

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, KS, JA  
SUBJECT: JAPANESE 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE

REF (A) SEOUL 3022 (NOTAL); (B) TOKYO 5585 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: TWO SEA PROBLEMS DOWN; THE BIG ONE STILL TO GO.

END SUMMARY.

1. GAIMUSHO NORTHEAST ASIAN DIVISION I CHIEF ENDO RETURNED  
TO SEOUL APRIL 16-17 TO EXPLAIN TO MOFA OFFICIALS JAPANESE  
PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE.  
ACCORDING TO JAPANESE POLCOUNS MABUCHI, ENDO EXPLAINED  
THAT 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE  
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DELINEATED WITHIN SEA OF JAPAN (WHICH KOREANS REFER TO AS  
EAST SEA), THUS FINESSING, INTER ALIA, QUESTION OF WHO  
OWNS TOKTO (TAKESHIMA). MABUCHI SAID KOREANS WERE  
APPARENTLY PLEASED WITH ENDO'S EXPLANATION AND ADDED THAT  
UNLESS ROK/JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT RATIFICATION  
FAILS TO PASS IN COMMITTEE OR FFULL LOWER HOUSE VOTES  
APRIL 22 AND 28 RESPECTIVELY, ROK/JAPAN RELATIONS SHOULD

BE ON REASONABLY SMOOTH COURSE. CONTINENTAL SHELF PASSAGE WAS CRITICAL IN MABUCHI'S VIEW, SINCE IT HAD BECOME MATTER OF PRESTIGE TO KOREANS. IF IT FAILED HE ANTICIPATED ANI JAPANESE "EXPLOSION" IN KOREA.

2. MOFA TREATIES DIVISION CHIEF BAE BYONG SUNG, WHO MET WITH ENDO APRIL 17, TOLD EMBOFF ENDO EXPLAINED BACKGROUND OF JAPANESE DECISION TO ADVANCE IMPLEMENTATION OF 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE TO APRIL 22 BECAUSE OF NEED FOR COUNTERACTION AGAINST SOVIET DECLARATION OF 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE AND SUBSEQUENT BREAKDOWN OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS. ENDO SAID GOJ HAD DETERMINED THAT ECONOMIC ZONE WOULD NOT APPLY TO NATIONS WITH WHICH JAPAN HAD FISHING AGREEMENTS, THUS, ACCORDING TO BAE, PROVIDING RATIONALE FOR APPLYING LIMIT TO USSR BUT NOT TO ROK. BAE SAID ENDO'S VISIT MADE FAVORABLE IMPRESSION AS GESTURE OF SINCERITY, BUT ROKG POSITION ON JAPAN'S 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE DECIDED UNTIL THE CABINET HAD A CHANCE TO MEET AND CONSIDER ZONE'S IMPACT ON ROKG INTERESTS.

3. PRACTICAL JAPANESE SOLUTION, WHICH PROVIDES THAT 200 MILE LINE WOULD MERELY FADE AWAY AS IT CROSSES INTO SEA OF JAPAN, APPEARS TO HAVE SOLVED OR AT LEAST MITIGATED WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN AN AGGRAVATING PROBLEM FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND KOREA. NOW FOR THE DIET VOTE ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONTINENTAL SHELF, AGREEMENTS, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT, FISHING AGREEMENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977SEOUL03178  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770249-0676, D770135-0807  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 SEOUL 3022, 77 TOKYO 5585  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JAPANESE 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PLOS, KS, JA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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